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10 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 10 October 1968

ADD/I recommended that a conscious decision to go forward with HIGH HEELS 68 ought to be taken at a high policy-making level in view of the uneasy situation in Europe and the increased risk that the Soviets and/or the press could mistake aspects of the exercise for the real thing. The Director asked DDCI to contact Ambassador Bohlen to raise the issue whether Secretary Rusk should be advised of the HIGH HEELS matter.

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Lehman advised that Ambassador Adair was instructed by State to inform President Arias of our information on a possible coup attempt.

Lehman provided a memorandum assessing French foreign policy since the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. The Director asked Lehman to prepare cover notes for the Director's signature to accompany high-level distribution.

D/ONE noted that Tom Hughes dissents from certain language in the Spanish Estimate scheduled for today's USIB meeting and that it would be better to retain the current language. In this connection, DDCI and DD/P pointed to recent reports tending to confirm the current language of the Estimate.

Carver briefed on the coup rumors in Saigon, pointing out that there undoubtedly is grumbling among the military but that Ky is not involved to the extent rumored and that certain members of the Saigon government have overreacted. In any case, the rumors and the government's reaction have unquestionably caused additional strain in the Ky-Thieu relationship.

Maury obtained the Director's concurrence in sending a blind memorandum prepared by DD/S&T to George Murphy of the Joint

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Committee on Atomic Energy staff concerning George Wilson's
8 October article on FOBS.

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DD/S&T pointed out that 13-15 October constitute the most appropriate dates this month for a Soviet circumlunar shot although there are no signs of the kind of activity generally associated with a launch within the Soviet Union. It would appear at least that there will be no manned shot at the moon this month.

DD/P advised that he talked to Bill Trueheart on the matter raised at yesterday's Morning Meeting concerning reporting on Czechoslovakia.

DD/P drew attention to the report cited in the Night Journal of the creation of a Czechoslovakia exile movement in Yugoslavia headed by Ota Sik. If the Soviets crack down again in Czechoslovakia, this could develop into a government in exile.

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The Director discussed Secretary Rusk's concern with Pravda's enunciation of the socialist commonwealth concept and Gromyko's interpretation that the commonwealth has no geographic limits.

The Director reported that he raised with Secretary Rusk the matter of the disposition of the Rusk Commission report. Secretary Rusk indicated that Congressional leaders did not wish to grapple with the report during this session of the Congress and that the President has laid the report aside. The Director got Secretary Rusk's support for including funding of the two radios in our FY 70 budget.

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L. K. White

* Extracted and sent to action officer

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